

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
CUSTOMS SERVICE
QUARTERLY IRS INTEREST RATES USED IN CALCULATING
INTEREST ON OVERDUE ACCOUNTS AND REFUNDS
ON CUSTOMS DUTIES**

AGENCY: Customs Service, Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public of the quarterly Internal Revenue Service interest rates used to calculate interest on overdue accounts (underpayments) and refunds (overpayments) of Customs duties. For the quarter beginning January 1, 2000, the interest rates for overpayments will be 7 percent for corporations and 8 percent for non-corporations, and the interest rate for underpayments will be 8 percent. This notice is published for the convenience of the importing public and Customs personnel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald Wyman, Accounting Services Division, Accounts Receivable Group, 6026 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278, (317) 298-1200, extension 1349.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1505 and Treasury Decision 85-93, published in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 1985 (50 FR 21832), the interest rate paid on applicable overpayments or underpayments of Customs duties shall be in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621 and 6622. Section 6621 was amended (at paragraph (a)(1)(B) by the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, Pub.L. 105-206, 112 Stat. 685) to provide different interest rates applicable to overpayments: one for corporations and one for non-corporations. The interest rate applicable to underpayments is not so bifurcated.

The interest rates are based on the short-term Federal rate and determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on behalf of the Secretary of the Treasury on a quarterly basis. The rates effective for a quarter are determined during the first-month period of the previous quarter.

In Revenue Ruling 99-53 (see, 1999-50 IRB 1, dated December 13, 1999), the IRS determined the rates of interest for the second quarter of fiscal year (FY) 2000 (the period of January 1 - March 31, 2000). The interest rate paid to the Treasury for underpayments will be the short-term Federal rate (5%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of eight percent (8%). For corporate overpayments, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (5%) plus two percentage points (2%) for a total of seven percent (7%). For overpayments made by non-corporations, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (5%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of eight percent (8%). These interest rates are subject to change for the third quarter of FY-2000 (the period of April 1 - June 30, 2000).

For the convenience of the importing public and Customs personnel the following list of Internal Revenue Service interest rates used, covering the period from before July of 1974 to date, to calculate interest on overdue accounts and refunds of Customs duties, is published in summary format.

<u>Beginning Date</u>	<u>Ending Date</u>	<u>Under- payments</u> (percent)	<u>Over- payments</u> (percent)	<u>Corporate Overpay- ments</u> (Eff. 1-1-99) (percent)
Prior to 070174	063075	6%	6%	
070175	013176	9 %	9 %	
020176	013178	7 %	7 %	
020178	013180	6 %	6 %	

020180	013182	12 %	12 %	
020182	123182	20 %	20 %	
010183	063083	16 %	16 %	
070183	123184	11 %	11 %	
010185	063085	13 %	13 %	
070185	123185	11 %	11 %	
010186	063086	10 %	10 %	
070186	123186	9 %	9 %	
010187	093087	9 %	8 %	
100187	123187	10 %	9 %	
010188	033188	11 %	10 %	
040188	093088	10 %	9 %	
100188	033189	11 %	10 %	
040189	093089	12 %	11 %	
100189	033191	11 %	10 %	
040191	123191	10 %	9 %	
010192	033192	9 %	8 %	
040192	093092	8 %	7 %	
100192	063094	7 %	6 %	
070194	093094	8 %	7 %	
100194	033195	9 %	8 %	
040195	063095	10 %	9 %	
070195	033196	9 %	8 %	
040196	063096	8 %	7 %	
070196	033198	9 %	8 %	
040198	123198	8%	7%	
010199	033199	7%	7%	6%
040199	033100	8%	8%	7%

Dated: January 3, 2000
Commissioner of Customs
Raymond W. Kelly